

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138515

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 PRS-01 H-03 SCA-01 RSC-01 /035 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:JMUEHLKE:CR

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L/EUR:DSMALL(PHONE)

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R 141358Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CPRS UR US

SUBJECT: DIFFICULTY FACED BY MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A. DAVIS
IN CALLING EMBASSY FROM MOSCOW AIRPORT

1. MAYOR JOHN BELK OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA AND TWO CHARLOTTE NEWSMEN CALLED THE DEPARTMENT ON JULY 12 TO COMPLAIN THAT MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A. DAVIS OF 623 HEMPSTEAD PLACE, CHARLOTTE ALLEGEDLY HAD DIFFICULTY ON JUNE 30, JULY 1, AND JULY 2 IN CALLING THE EMBASSY FROM A HOTEL ROOM NEAR MOSCOW AIRPORT. THE WILLIAMS RELATED THEIR PROBLEM TO BELK ON JULY 3 OR 4 IN MOSCOW. THEY REPORTEDLY ARRIVED AT MOSCOW AIRPORT ON JUNE 30 WITH VISAS STAMPED FOR A JULY 30 ENTRY INTO THE USSR. THEY WERE ALLEGEDLY QUOTE LOCKED UP IN A ROOM UNQUOTE AND, BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT SPEAK RUSSIAN, WERE UNABLE TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. BELK COULD PROVIDE NO MORE PRECISE INFORMATION, AND THE DAVISES CANNOT BE REACHED AT PRESENT. MAYOR BELK REPORTED THAT HE VISITED LENINGRAD ON JULY 6 AND PASSED SOME OF THIS INFORMATION TO AN EMBASSY OR CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICER.

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PAGE 02 STATE 138515

2. IN VIEW OF PRESS INTEREST EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO LOOK INTO THIS CASE AND INFORM THE DEPARTMENT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE WILLIAMS ALLEGED DETENTION AND INABILITY TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE US-SOVIET CONSULATE CONVENTION, WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE JULY 13, 1968 AND WHICH PROVIDES IN ARTICLE 12 THAT THE QUOTE RECEIVING STATE SHALL IN NO WAY RESTRICT ACCESS OF NATIONALS OF THE SENDING STATE TO ITS CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENT. END QUOTE. RUSH

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Draft Date: 14 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMUEHLKE:CR
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Subject: DIFFICULTY FACED BY MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A. DAVIS IN CALLING EMBASSY FROM MOSCOW AIRPORT
TAGS: CPRS, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
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